

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A dishwasher rack, comprising:
a substantially rectangular wire receptacle defined by a bottom wall, a front wall, a back wall,
and opposite side walls;
spaced apart pairs of tines having lower ends ~~in a common horizontal plane~~ and upper ends, and
being free from connections above the lower ends between adjacent tines, so as to receive
dinner plates therebetween;
the tines in each pair being independently foldable in opposite directions between an upright
position and a lowered position; ~~and~~
the upper ends of the tines of one set being spaced progressively farther apart from the tines of
the other set as one or both of the sets of tines are folded from the upright position to the
lowered position such that the tall object supported by tines will be tilted progressively
farther from a vertical plane as the tines are folded toward the lowered position; and
a clip member associated with the tines to permit selected folding of each pair of the tines to one
or more positions between the upright and lowered positions.

Claim 2 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 1 wherein the clip member includes a
plurality of protrusions and an adjacent arm operatively connected to the tines is adapted to be
received between pairs of the protrusions to retain the tines in the selected position.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 1 wherein the tines form
spaced apart first and second rows with the tines in each row being interconnected adjacent the
lower ends so as to fold in unison.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 3 further comprising a horizontal leg to interconnect the tines adjacent the lower ends of the respective rows, the leg having opposite ends pivotally mounted to the bottom wall of the rack.

Claim 5 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 1 wherein the tines are angled rearwardly.

Claim 6 (Currently amended): The dishwasher rack of claim 1 wherein each of the tines is stepped.

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 1 wherein the lower ends of the tines in each pair being fixed relative to one another, and the upper ends of the tines in each pair being spaced progressively farther apart from one another as one or both of the tines are folded from the upright position to the lowered position such that a plate supported by tines of one of the pairs will be tilted progressively farther from a vertical plane as the tines are folded toward the lowered position.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): In combination, a dishwasher rack and a dinner plate having a diameter of at least 8 inches, the combination comprising:

a bottom;

a front;

a back;

opposite sides;

first and second horizontal legs extending along the bottom;

a plurality of tines extending from each of the first and second legs in a non-perpendicular, angled orientation and being free from obstruction between upper and lower ends of each tine so as to angle the dinner plate to fit within a washing compartment having a height of less than the diameter of the plate;

at least one of the legs being pivotally mounted on the bottom, such that the tines thereon are foldable between upright and lowered positions so that the dinner plate tilts at an increasing angle as the tines are pivoted from the upright position to the lowered position; and

a clip member on the rack adapted to engage one of the foldable tines to hold the foldable tines in a position between the upright and lowered positions.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 8 wherein both legs are pivotally mounted on the bottom so that the tines on each leg are foldable in opposite directions.

Claim 10 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 9 wherein the tines on the first leg are independently foldable with respect to the tines on the second leg.

Claim 11 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 8 wherein the clip member includes a plurality of protrusions adapted to receive an arm on the one foldable leg to hold the foldable tines in a selected position.

Claim 12 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 8 wherein the tines are angled rearwardly.

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 8 wherein each of the tines is stepped.

Claim 14 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 8 wherein each of the tines have upper and lower ends, the lower ends of the tines on one leg being fixed relative to the tines on the other leg, and the upper ends of the tines on the respective legs being spaced progressively farther apart from one another as one or both of the legs are pivoted to fold the tines thereon from the upright position to the lowered position, such that a plate supported by tines will be tilted progressively farther from a vertical plane as the tines are folded toward the lowered position.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): A dishwasher rack, comprising:

a bottom, a front, a back and opposite sides;

first and second sets of tines, at least one set being selectively foldable for retention in one or more positions between an upright position and a lowered position; the first and second sets of tines being spaced apart and ~~rearwardly~~rearwardly angled and being free from obstruction between the upper and lower tine ends so as to angle tall objects to fit within a reduced height washing compartment, wherein the height of the objects is greater than the height of the washing compartment; and

each of the tines have upper and lower ends, the lower ends of the tines of one set being fixed relative to the tines of the other set, and the upper ends of the tines of one set being spaced progressively farther apart from the tines of the other set as one or both of the sets of tines are folded from the upright position to the lowered position such that the tall

object supported by tines will be tilted progressively farther from a vertical plane as the tines are folded toward the lowered position.

Claim 16 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 15 further comprising a clip on the rack to hold the foldable tines in the selected position.

Claim 17 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 16 wherein the clip has a plurality of protrusions and an arm operatively connected to the tines is receivable between a pair of protrusions to retain the tines in the selected position.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The dishwasher rack of claim 15 wherein both sets of tines are foldable independent of one another and in opposite directions.

Claim 19 (Original): The dishwasher rack of claim 15 further comprising a horizontal leg for each of the sets of tines to interconnect the tines of the respective sets, each leg having opposite ends pivotally mounted to the bottom wall of the rack.

Claim 20-23 (Canceled)